

TASK REPORT TO THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Hazard Assessment
Kansas City, Kansas

TDD #7-8209-06

REPORT DATE: September 16, 1982

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REGION VII TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM

OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL
EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND SPILL PREVENTION PROGRAM
EPA CONTRACT NO. 68-01-5158

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INTRODUCTION

In May and June of 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory (EMSL), located in Las Vegas, Nevada, conducted a series of aerial overflights of the Kansas River in Kansas City, Kansas. The EMSL interpretation of these photos identified the Dowell Company as a potential uncontrolled hazardous waste site. In July of 1982 the Waste Management Branch, Region VII EPA, requested a preliminary site inspection of the potential site. From September 7, 1982 to September 10, 1982 a preliminary site investigation was conducted at the site.

The Dowell Co. site is located 1000 feet east of the east levee of the Kansas River, and 2500 feet north by northeast of the Turner Memorial Bridge. Their address is 5254 Speaker Rd. in Kansas City, Kansas. The aerial photos identified open drum storage on the site's northeast corner. The EMSL narrative also described an old land fill area and a lagoon due north of the site. All of these areas were investigated thoroughly.

INSPECTION REPORT

Reconnaissance

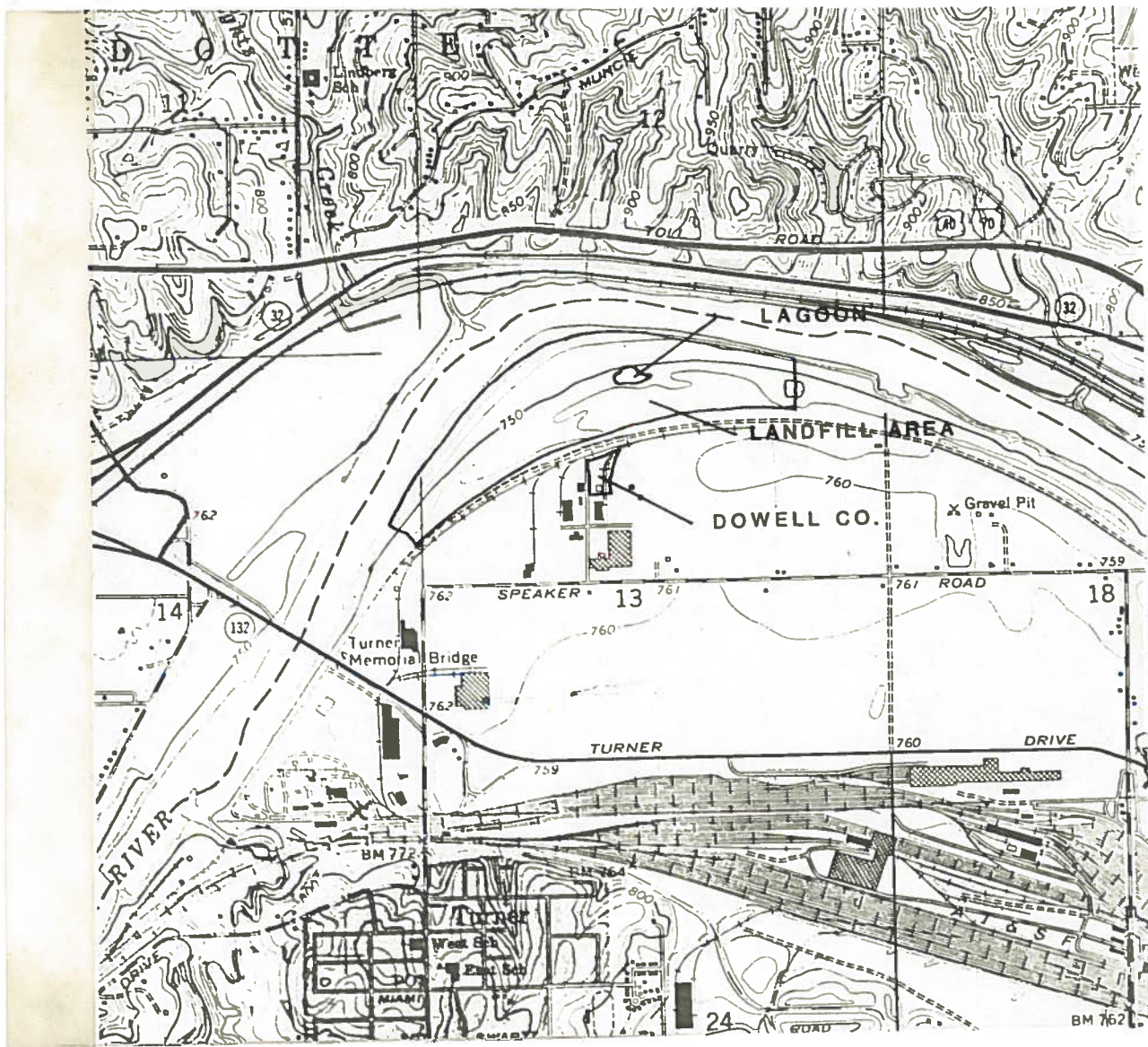
On Tuesday, September 7, 1982, Gary Snodgrass (EPA/EP&R) and Michael Erbaugh (TAT) conducted a thorough record search of the Dowell Co. before an on-site inspection was attempted.

The record search showed that the Region VII EPA Headquarters had neither an NPDES nor a RCRA permit on file for this site. The Better Business Bureau of Kansas City had received no complaint on the Co., nor did they have any additional information on file.

The U.S. Corps of Engineers Levee is the northern boundary for the property. While driving on the levee approximately ten drums were noted on site. No other oddities were observed.

An investigation of the landfill revealed no signs of vegetative stress, nor was there evidence of chemical dumping. The lagoon area appeared to be natural drainage for the area. There were two dead trees adjacent to the lagoon, but there was also abundant live vegetation. Taking this into consideration, the dead trees were probably coincidental.

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF THE AREA



The arrow points to the location of the incident.

0 2000 ft

! . . . ! . . . !

Scale: 1" = 2000 ft

Quadrangle: **SHAWNEE KS.**



SITE VISIT

On Monday, September 8, 1982 an unannounced site inspection was conducted. Dowell's office manager, Steve Koster, was interviewed prior to the inspection. Mr. Koster said that Dowell is a division of Dow Chemical. Dowell is involved with the chemical extraction of crude oil and the treatment of oil wells.

During the site investigation, it was discovered, the drum area identified in the EMSL overflights contained empty drums. Most of the drums are removed once a month by Dow for reclamation. The remaining drums are returned to Dowell's neighbor, Ashland Chemical. These drums are also reclaimed.

The chemicals that Dowell has on hand consisted of, Inhibitors, Surfactants, Emulsifiers and some HCL^{*}, these were stored in the on-site garage. There were no chemical wastes stored on property.

No signs of runoff was evident during the site inspection nor was there any evidence of soil contamination near the site's property.

The immediate site was paved rendering obtaining environmental samples impossible. The river levee due north of the site was the nearest unpaved area. This area supported vegetation showing no signs of stress. No samples were obtained during this preliminary assessment.

* Complete list of chemical data sheets is attached to the Preliminary Assessment Form in appendix 4.

CONCLUSION

An inspection of the Dowell, Co. from September 7, 1982 to September 10, 1982, focused on three major areas identified by the EMSL overflights. These areas are, open drum storage, landfill area, and lagoon area.

The inspection revealed none of these areas had any hazardous wastes on-site at the time of our inspection, nor did a hazardous situation appear to exist.

Neither the Dowell site, the adjacent landfill, nor the lagoon area necessitate any further action concerning their being potential hazardous waste sites.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
SITE IDENTIFICATION

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER

KS 000010158

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site)

Open Drum Storage Site

02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER

east of Ashland Chemical Co. at Speaker & 55th

03 CITY

Kansas City

04 STATE

05 ZIP CODE

06 COUNTY

07 COUNTY

08 CONG

Ks.

66106

Wyandotte

CODE

DIST

09 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road)

This site is located adjacent & east of the Ashland Chemical Co. plant in Kansas City, Ks., which is also listed as a potentially uncontrolled site. This site is located approximately 1000 feet east of the bank of the Kansas River & is approximately 2500 north-north east of the Turner Memorial Bridge as it crosses the Kansas River.

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (if known)

unknown at the time the site was identified

02 STREET (Business, residential, mailing)

03 CITY

04 STATE

05 ZIP CODE

06 TELEPHONE NUMBER

07 OPERATOR (if known and different from owner)

08 STREET (Business, residential, mailing)

09 CITY

unknown at the time the site was identified

10 STATE

11 ZIP CODE

12 TELEPHONE NUMBER

13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one)

☒ A. PRIVATE

☐ B. FEDERAL:

(Agency name)

☐ F. OTHER:

(Specify)

☐ C. STATE

☐ D. COUNTY

☐ E. MUNICIPAL

☒ G. UNKNOWN

IV. HOW IDENTIFIED

01 DATE IDENTIFIED

MONTH DAY YEAR

02 IDENTIFIED BY (Check all that apply)

☐ A. CITIZEN COMPLAINT

☐ B. INDUSTRY

☐ C. STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT

☐ E. RCRA INSPECTION

☐ F. SURFACE IMPOUNDMENT ASSESSMENT

☐ H. OTHER

(Specify)

☒ D. AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE

☐ G. OTHER EPA IDENTIFICATION

V. SITE CHARACTERIZATION

01 TYPE OF SITE (Check all that apply)

☒ A. STORAGE

☐ B. TREATMENT

☐ C. DISPOSAL

☐ D. UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING

☐ E. OTHER

inadequate run-off control

02 SUMMARY OF KNOWN PROBLEMS (Provide narrative description)

The aerial photo & the narrative interpretation of the overflight done on this site by EMSL in May-June, 1980 identified open drum storage on the northeast part of the site. The narrative also described spillage & surface drainage as draining to a ditch along Speaker Rd., then flowing into a field. No drainage from the field was described.

03 SUMMARY OF ALLEGED OR POTENTIAL PROBLEMS (Provide narrative description)

Aerial photo interpretation identified open drum storage & surface drainage, including any spillage, from the site draining to a ditch through a ditch along Speaker Road.

VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT

David V. Crawford

02 OF (Agency designation)

EPA Region VII

03 TELEPHONE NUMBER

(816) 374-6531

PREPARED BY

David V. Crawford

05 AGENCY

EPA

06 ORGANIZATION

ARHM HAZM TSS

07 TELEPHONE NUMBER

(816) 374-6531

08 DATE

MONTH DAY YEAR

Snodgrass



ecology and environment, inc.

NEW BROTHERHOOD BLDG., SUITE #374, 8TH & STATE, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101, TEL. 913-371-3213

International Specialists in the Environmental Sciences

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bill Keffer, Chief, EP&R/ENSV
FROM: Mike Erbaugh, TAT
DATE: September 16, 1982
SUBJECT: Preliminary site investigations
TDD #7-8209-06

In May and June of 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory (EMSL), located in Las Vegas, Nevada, conducted a series of aerial overflights of the Kansas River in Kansas City, Kansas. The EMSL interpretation of these photos identified two areas as potential uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. In July of 1982 the Waste Management Branch, Region VII EPA, requested preliminary site inspection of the potential sites. From September 7, 1982 to September 10, 1982 I assisted Gary Snodgrass (EPA/EP&R) with the identification and preliminary assessment of these two areas.

Site one is located 1000 feet east of the east levee of the Kansas River, and 2500 feet north by northeast of the Turner Memorial Bridge. The aerial photos, and narrative interpretation of the overflight conducted on this site, identified open drum storage on it's northeast corner. The EMSL narrative also described an old landfill area and a lagoon due north of the site. All of these areas were investigated thoroughly.

The designated site is owned and operated by Dowell, a division of Dow Chemical. The site is located at 5254 Speaker Rd. in Kansas City, Kansas. Dowell is involved with the chemical extraction of crude oil and the treatment of oil wells. The drum area identified in the EMSL overflights contained empty drums. Most of the drums are removed once a month by Dow for reclamation. The remaining drums are returned to Dowell's neighbor, Ashland Chemical. These drums are also reclaimed.

An investigation of the landfill area revealed no signs of vegetative stress, nor was there evidence of chemical dumping. The lagoon area appeared to be natural drainage for the area. There were two dead trees adjacent to the lagoon, but there was also abundant live vegetation. Taking this into consideration, the dead trees were probably coincidental.

9/16/82


Site two is also adjacent to the east levee of the Kansas River. The site is located south of Kansas Avenue where it crosses the Kansas River, and northwest of the 18th St. bridge, where it too crosses the Kansas River. The aerial photos and narrative of this site identified an open drum storage area. The EMSL narrative also describes a pipe going over the levee and into the Kansas River. Both of these items were addressed during our investigation.

This designated site is owned and operated by The American Walnut Lumber Company, 18th & Argentine Blvd. Kansas City, Kansas. The open drum area on this site consisted of cardboard drums containing wax. The wax is used for sealing the ends of pieces of wood that are going to be kiln dried. The wax is manufactured by the Mobil Oil Company. This same wax is used in the food processing industry and contains no harmful chemicals. The wax used by American Walnut does not have to be as pure as that used by the food industries.

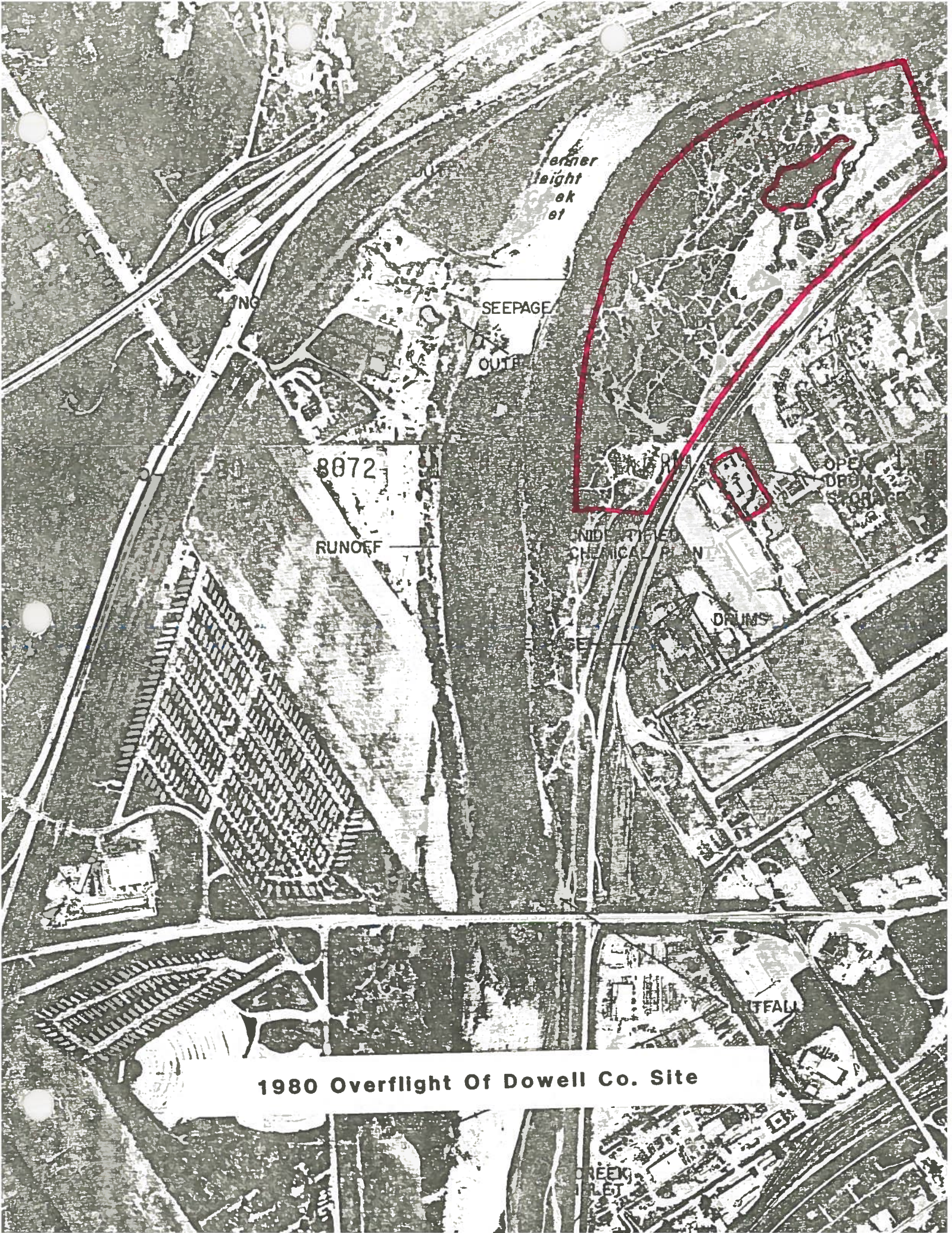
The pipe crossing the levee, as described in the EMSL narrative is not on American Walnut's property. The pipe belongs to the adjacent lumber company, the Frank Purcell Lumber Co., located at south 18th and the Kansas River in Kansas City, Kansas. The pipe was installed by the Corp of Engineers to alliviate the rain water runoff accumulation problem Purcell's was experiencing. The pipe is registered with the state's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program, and is inspected by the state. The last inspection was in June of 1982. The inspection was conducted by John Metzler with the Kansas Department of Health.

None of the sites had any hazardous wastes on-site at the time of our inspection, nor did a hazardous situation appear to exist. None of the sites necessitate any further action concerning their being potential hazardous waste sites.

The information in the appendices of this memo pertains to the Dowell Co. For information pertaining to the American Walnut Co., contact Gary Snodgrass.


Michael D. Erbaugh

MDE: kas



1980 Overflight Of Dowell Co. Site